

American Physical Therapy Association Announces Justine Handelman as Public Member of APTA Board



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ALEXANDRIA, Va. — The American Physical Therapy Association is pleased to announce that Justine Handelman has been appointed to its Board of Directors as a public member. Handelman is a government affairs executive from Kensington, Maryland.

“The public member position was created to bring outside perspective and unique expertise to the work we do to guide the association,” said APTA CEO Justin Moore, PT, DPT. “We’re excited to have Justine join us as our third public member and look forward to her contributions.”

Justine Handelman is the founder and president of Handelman Strategies, a government affairs and political strategy consultancy. In her work, she focuses on key health care issues in the federal government and states for major corporations and industries. Prior to founding Handelman Strategies, Handelman served as senior vice president, policy and advocacy, for the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association, where she worked for over 20 years. Throughout her career, she has advocated for improving the accessibility, quality, and affordability of health care throughout the U.S.

“I’m thrilled to be able to lend my expertise to benefit the physical therapy profession and am honored to be selected to serve as a public member,” said Handelman.

Last week, the American Physical Therapy Association announced the newly elected 2026 Board of Directors and officers. This leadership body provides strategic direction for the organization and advocates on behalf of physical therapists, physical therapist assistants, students of physical therapy, and patients nationwide to advance the profession of physical therapy and improve the health of society.

The full list of the 2026 APTA Board of Directors is as follows:

- President: Kyle Covington, PT, DPT, PhD
- Vice President: Skye Donovan, PT, PhD
- Secretary: Ami Faria, PT, DPT
- Treasurer: Zoher Kapasi, PT, MSPT, PhD, MBA, FAPTA
- Speaker of the House: William (Bill) McGehee Jr., PT, PhD
- Vice Speaker of the House: Robin L. Dole, PT, DPT, EdD
- Director: Stefanie Bourassa, PT, DPT
- Director: Colleen Chanler, PT, PhD, MHS
- Director: Jamie Dyson, PT, DPT
- Director: Jeff Jankowski, PT, DPT, ATC
- Director: Kendell Jno-Finn, PT, DPT
- Director: Craig Johnson, PT, MBA
- Director: Kelley Kubota, PT, MS
- Director: Kim Nixon-Cave, PT, PhD, MS, FAPTA
- Director: Lisa VanHoose, PT, PhD, MPH, FAPTA
- Public Member: Justine Handelman

APTA invests in systems to ensure the participation of delegates and the integrity of the election process for its Board of Directors and Nominating Committee. Newly elected members of the Board assume office on Jan. 1 in the year following the elections. A complete term for an elected Board member is defined as four years. In addition to elected Board members, who must be members of APTA, a public member is appointed annually by the Board for a one-year term.

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About APTA

The American Physical Therapy Association represents 100,000 physical therapists, physical therapist assistants, and physical therapy students nationwide. Visit [the APTA website](#) to learn more.